

**Meeting Date:** February 24, 2020

**In Attendance:** Maria Boyes (Chair), Kelly Kessler (Vice-Chair), Carol Tener, Jennifer Jaruzelski, Katie Spikes, Robert Wendel (Town Historian), Greg Blasi, Jacqueline Brevard(A1), Tom Jardim (Town Attorney)

**Absent:** Alison Dallenbach-Carey, Linda Habgood (TC), Michael La Place (PB), Mary Anne Healy-Rodriguez (A2)

The meeting minutes from January 27, 2020, were reviewed with some minor revisions; Robert made a motion to approve, Kelly seconded. The minutes were approved by the Commission.

**New Business:**

**Introductions to HPC/Meet the Members**

Maria welcomed everyone to the Meet & Greet. The commission members introduced themselves, and discussed the HPC's mission of preserving historical sites and structures while fostering an appreciation for those landmarks as an essential part of the town's unique character.

Jenny spoke about the Harry Devlin Awards, which is a program that recognizes homeowners for commendable preservation efforts. The awards are presented in June.

Some common misconceptions about historic designation were discussed. The Commission does not tell you what you can or cannot do to the interior of the home, but does offer guidance on the exterior from an architectural and historical perspective. A certificate of appropriateness is not required for repainting, repair, or reconstruction of an existing improvement. The Commission does identify building structures and sites for designation as historic landmarks or districts. It makes recommendations to the Planning Board for designations, and hears and decides on applications for certificates of appropriateness within historic districts. Other ways the Commission can help is to explain the HPC Ordinance and our relationship with other related government bodies, assist and guide homeowners in navigating the process of preservation with various town departments, highlight and celebrate restored historic homes on a regular basis to promote a culture of smart renovation in Westfield.

Maria announced the next Speaker Series will be April 30th, and will be given by Carol Tener.

The Commission presented plaques to: Carol and Frank Nolde, 1737 Nevada Street and Robert and Pamela Newell, 603 Clark Street whose homes were recently historically designated. They also presented plaques to residents of the Kimball Avenue Historic District who have had their homes designated for decades, which includes: Dominick and Patricia Vollini at 230 Kimball Avenue, Richard and Barbara Bagger at 249 Kimball Avenue, Karrie Hoeft at 266 Kimball Avenue, Thomas Murtishaw at 237 Kimball Avenue, Catherine and Thomas Nobile at 248 Kimball Avenue, George Melloan at 265 Kimball Avenue, Wally and Linda Parker at 243 Kimball Avenue, Albert and Lauren Yousef at 257 Kimball Avenue, Cathy and Brian Reed at

242 Kimball Avenue, Sari Netsky at 404 Lawrence Avenue, and Susan and Edward Reverdy at 322 Lawrence Avenue.

Each recipient took the time to say a few words about what their historic home means to them and thank the Commission for all of their work and for the beautiful plaques.

The meeting was opened to public comment:

None.

Closed to public comment.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm**

Meeting minutes recorded by Linda Jacus